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REVIEW OF ASTRONOMY SECTION OF
"A SYSTEMATIC INDEX OF ARTICLES
APPEARING IN FOREIGN JOURNALS"

[Note: The first issue, covering January - June 1948, of Section I, entitled "Physico-Mathematical Sciences," of the above-named Index (Sistematskiy Ukazatel' k Sostoy. y Inostrannykh Zhurnalakh) has just been published in Moscow by the Foreign Literature Press (Izdatel'stvo Inostrannoy Literatury). It is 200 pages and costs 8.70 rubles.]

The articles are numerically indexed; of the total of 1,969 articles in the compilation, 727-988 pertain to astronomy. An accurate bibliographical reference is given, and below it, the title of the article in Russian. The articles are grouped together under several headings; thus, astronomical literature is divided into seven divisions: General; Astrometry and Astronomical Devices; Astrophysics; the Sun; the Solar System; Stellar Astronomy; and Cosmogony and Cosmology.

The absence of a division entitled "Theoretical Astronomy and Celestial Mechanics" is felt. Reference No 861, 884, and certain others could be related to it. There is also no division entitled "History of Astronomy" (references No 899-902, 727, 734). These divisions should be established. In

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the second place, the list of articles is far from complete. It would be necessary to indicate (in the foreword) what principles guided the press in including some periodicals and excluding others. The question arises: what to do with the omissions which are inevitable in such a large work. It would be best of all to include these in the following issues (which are being prepared); and because the years of publication are indicated everywhere, this will never lead to misunderstanding.

The most serious mistakes were permitted in the translation of the titles of articles into Russian. These mistakes comprise a small percentage, but their absolute number is great. We will cite several examples. In reference 743 instead of "how the randomness of a series of numbers is defined," one ought to have "how the randomness of a series of numbers is recognized" ('opredelyayut' should be replaced by 'raspoznayut'). In reference 801, instead of "unsplit (nerasshcheplennogo) spectrum," "non-slit (besshchelevogo) spectrum" should be said, or still more accurately "spectrum obtained with a non-slit spectrograph." Reference 920 should read "Lisichki" [the constellation Vulpecula, genitive singular] instead of "Lisichki" [the same, genitive plural]. In reference 922, instead of "the photoelectric temperatures of the star P in the constellation Cygnus," one should say "stars of the type P in Cygnus" [fotoelektricheskiye temperatury zvezdy P v sozvezdii Lebedya] replaced by "fotoelektricheskiye temperatury zvezd tipa P Lebedya". Reference 987: one does not say "the Crab nebula" (tumannost' Kraby), but rather "the crablike nebula" (krabovidnaya tumannost'). In reference 987 one does not talk of "interstellar space" (mez-zvesdnom prostranstve), but of "interstellar medium" (mez-zvezdnoy srede).

Certain articles fell in the wrong division. Among these are references No 826 and 954. There are also misprints in the last names of authors (references No 879 and 934).

The Foreign Literature Press should take into consideration all the critical remarks mentioned and continue the necessary and good work of the edition of the systematic index of articles in foreign periodicals.

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